

Message Text

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ACTION AF-02

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-01 INR-01 /005 W

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R 060810Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

TO USINFO WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0134

UNCLAS YAOUNDE 4230

FOR IBS NEWS COVERAGE DESK ATTENTION AFRICAN DIVISION

PASS IPS AFRICA BRANCH, IAA

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: CAMEROONIAN PRESIDENT ORDERS INVESTIGATION OF SOCCER INCIDENT

CAMEROONIAN PRESIDENT AHMADOU AHIDJO HAS ORDERED AN INVESTIGATION INTO AN INCIDENT THAT PREMATURELY ENDED A CHAMPIONSHIP SOCCER GAME BETWEEN THE NATIONAL TEAMS OF CAMEROON AND CONGO BRAZZAVILLE LAST SUNDAY, AND COST AT LEAST ONE LIFE.

THE INCIDENT OCCURRED IN CAMEROON'S CAPITAL OF YAOUNDE AT A GAME BETWEEN CAMEROON'S INDOMITABLE LIONS AND THE CONGO'S RED DEVILS.

THE RED DEVILS WERE LEADING TWO GOALS TO ONE WHEN THE REFEREE, A GAMBIAN, CALLED A PENALTY ON THE CONGO FOR FOULING A CAMEROONIAN PLAYER. THE PENALTY WAS DISPUTED BY THE CONGOLESE GOALEE, WHO STRUCK AND KNOCKED DOWN THE REFEREE. PLAYERS AND SPECTATORS POURED ONTO THE FIELD, AND IN THE ENSUING MELEE, SEVERAL PEOPLE WERE INJURED, SOME SERIOUSLY.

ACCORDING TO EYEWITNESS REPORTS, SEVERAL CAMEROONIAN PLAYERS AND POLICEMEN WERE BADLY BEATEN WHEN THEY TRIED TO PROTECT THE VASTLY OUTNUMBERED CONGOLESE. AMONG THE INJURED WAS THE DEPUTY COMMANDER OF THE GENDARMERIE OF YAOUNDE, MR. ONGUENE LUC, WHO DIED THE NEXT DAY.

POLICE AND MILITARY MEN WHO WERE PRESENT JOINED IN THE FIGHTING INSTEAD OF ATTEMPTING TO CONTAIN IT.

CAMEROONIAN PRESS REPORTS SAID THAT PRESIDENT AHIDJO ON NOVEMBER 3 CONDEMNED THE DISORDERLY INTERVENTION OF CERTAIN UNCLASSIFIED
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ELEMENTS OF THE FORCES OF LAW AND ORDER AND ORDERED AN IMMEDIATE INVESTIGATION TO LOCATE THE TROUBLE-MAKERS

AND PUNISH THEM SEVERELY. ITEM.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, ATHLETIC PRESENTATIONS, CIVIL DISORDERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 NOV 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976YAOUND04230
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760414-1104
From: YAOUNDE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761172/aaaackxv.tel
Line Count: 63
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: oatisa0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 JUL 2004 by schwenja>; APPROVED <23 AUG 2004 by oatisa0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CAMEROONIAN PRESIDENT ORDERS INVESTIGATION OF SOCCER INCIDENT CAMEROONIAN PRESIDENT AHMADOU AHIDJO HAS ORDERED AN INVESTIGATION INTO AN INCIDENT THAT PREMATURELY ENDED A
TAGS: PINS, PINT, CM, CF
To: USIA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006